

SD8443 – Marion Bioretention Project

Project Description: The City of Columbia is in the process of designing bioretention cells to improve the stormwater quality in the Smith Branch Watershed and to remove impervious area from this highly urban watershed. The City has contracted with GMC Network to develop a plan for these improvements. Project improvements will occur along Marion Street from Elmwood Street to Laurel Street.

Objectives: The purpose of this project is to improve the existing storm water quality that drains into Smith Branch and upgrade the drainage infrastructure along Marion Street. The bump-out design will replace some parking on Marion street to add greenspace, providing safety improvements and a beautification benefit.

Project Type: Stormwater infrastructure improvement

Council District: 2

Project Funding: This project is being funded through the City's Stormwater Capital Improvement Plan in conjunction with a grant from the SC Office of Resiliency (SCOR) funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Stormwater Infrastructure Program. **The SCOR grant will provide \$1,280,619 to fund the project construction. The City will fund the design, permitting, and construction engineering inspection estimated at \$203,286. The City's portion of project funding has previously been budgeted for this effort from the City's stormwater CIP fund.**

Current Project Status: The project was designed up to 60% plans in 2019 and was put on hold due to funding restrictions. The grant has allowed the City and GMC to start work again on the 60% plans and continue design and permitting. The project will coordinate with the City's parking and streets departments as well as SCDOT and DHEC. The City will conduct public outreach to inform the residents in the area of the green infrastructure upgrades. The SC Office of Resiliency will administer the construction portion of the project. **Council is asked to adopt Resolution No.: R-2023-036 necessary to accept the SCOR grant funding.**

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